

Board Administration and Regulatory Coordination Unit

Division 3. Air Resources Board

Chapter 1. Air Resources Board

Subchapter 1.25. Administrative Procedures--Hearings

Article 3. Administrative Hearing Procedures for Petitions for Review of Complaints

Subarticle 6. Contempt and Sanctions

§ 60065.31. Sanctions.

(a) Notwithstanding the above, the hearing officer may order a party, a party's representative or both, to pay reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees, incurred by another party as a result of bad faith actions or tactics that are frivolous or solely intended to cause unnecessary delay.

(1) "Actions or tactics" include, but are not limited to, the making or opposing of motions; the failure to comply with a discovery request or subpoena; or the failure to comply with a lawful order of the hearing officer.

(2) "Frivolous" means:

(A) Totally and completely without merit, or

(B) For the sole purpose of harassing an opposing party.

(b) An order for sanctions may be oral on the record or in writing and shall set forth the factual findings which are the basis for the imposition of sanctions.

(1) In determining reasonable expenses, the party or parties to whom payment is to be made shall, at the hearing officer's discretion, either make a statement on the record under oath or submit a written declaration under penalty of perjury setting forth with specificity the expenses incurred as a result of the other party's conduct.

(2) Within five days of the receipt of the hearing officer's order for the payment of expenses, a party or representative may, on the ground of hardship, request reconsideration from the hearing officer issuing the order. The request for reconsideration shall be filed in writing, and include a declaration under penalty of perjury.

(c) The order or denial of an order to pay expenses under paragraph (b) is subject of procedural review in the same manner as a final decision pursuant to Subarticle 11.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 39600, 39601, 43028 and 43031(a), Health and Safety Code. Reference: *Mathews v. Eldridge*, 424 U.S. 319 (1976); Sections 43028 and 43031(a), Health and Safety Code; and Sections 11455.30 and 11525, Government Code.

REFERENCE